

ALASKA – Oral Health Assessment, 2010/2011 (3rd grade children)

Survey results listing the mean, 95% confidence intervals and number of children in each category from the project for state totals, racial/ethnic groups and Medicaid enrolled children were as follows (2010/2011 school year – 3rd grade children):

Caries Experience:

Total (n=628)	61.6% (57.7, 65.4)
American Indian/Alaska Native (n=157)	83.4% (76.7, 88.9)
White (n=279)	48.4% (42.4, 54.4)
<u>All Other (n=192)</u>	63.0% (55.8, 69.9)

Medicaid/Denali KidCare (n=195)	71.3% (64.4, 77.5)
American Indian/Alaska Native (n=60)	88.3% (77.4, 95.2)
White (n=65)	63.1% (50.2, 74.7)
Other (n=70)	63.4% (51.9, 75.4)

Untreated Caries:

Total (n=628)	23.9% (20.6, 27.5)
American Indian/Alaska Native (n=157)	39.5% (31.8, 47.6)
White (n=279)	13.3% (9.5, 17.8)
<u>All Other (n=192)</u>	26.6% (20.5, 33.4)

Medicaid/Denali KidCare (n=195)	29.2% (23.0, 36.2)
American Indian/Alaska Native (n=60)	46.7% (33.7, 60.0)
White (n=65)	13.8% (6.5, 24.7)
Other (n=70)	28.6% (18.4, 40.6)

Dental Sealants Present:

Total (n=628)	46.8% (42.9, 50.8)
American Indian/Alaska Native (n=157)	57.3% (49.2, 65.2)
White (n=279)	47.0% (41.0, 53.0)
<u>All Other (n=192)</u>	38.0% (31.1, 45.3)

Medicaid/Denali KidCare (n=195)	44.1% (37.0, 51.4)
American Indian/Alaska Native (n=60)	46.7% (33.7, 60.0)
White (n=65)	47.7% (35.1, 60.5)
Other (n=70)	38.6% (27.2, 51.0)

Treatment Urgency – Early or Urgent Dental Care Needed:

Total (n=628)	24.2% (20.9, 27.8)
American Indian/Alaska Native (n=157)	41.4% (23.6, 49.5)
White (n=279)	12.5% (8.9, 17.0)
<u>All Other (n=192)</u>	27.1% (20.9, 34.0)

Medicaid/Denali KidCare (n=195)	29.2% (23.0, 36.2)
American Indian/Alaska Native (n=60)	48.3% (35.2, 61.6)
White (n=65)	13.8% (6.5, 24.7)
Other (n=70)	27.1% (17.2, 39.1)

Survey results reflect racial/ethnic variation in caries experience and untreated caries. The survey results also show variation in caries based on socioeconomic status (with Medicaid eligibility indicating children from families with lower incomes). A higher percentage of American Indian/Alaska Native children enrolled in Medicaid had both caries experience and untreated caries than children enrolled who were classified as White. High caries rates in American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) children has been noted previously in other surveys (e.g., 1991 and 1999 Indian Health Service dental screenings of American Indian/Alaska Natives and in the Basic Screening Survey (BSS) dental assessment projects in 2004 and 2007). The previous projects results have shown similar prevalence for caries experience and untreated caries percentages for Asian and Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander third-grader

as compared with American/Indian Alaska Native third-graders. The 2010/2011 BSS dental assessment project results again indicate similar caries experience prevalence for Asian and American Indian/Alaska Native third graders. Untreated caries results were similar for American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic/Latino third-graders. The small number of children from the listed racial/ethnic groups result in wide confidence intervals, however the results on caries experience and untreated caries warrants further investigation of caries among racial/ethnic minority groups.

Sealant utilization results among third-graders was 46.8% (at least one dental sealant on at least one permanent molar) – this percentage is less than was found among third-graders in 2004 (52.4%) and 2007 (55.3%). The sealant utilization for children from White, American Indian/Alaska Native and other racial/ethnic groups were lower than the 2007 BSS results, although this difference was not statistically significant from the 2004 results.